

REGULAR SESSION MEETING NOVEMBER 25, 2024

Be it remembered on the 25th day of November at 10:03 o'clock A.M., there was Begun and Holden a Regular Meeting of the Commissioner's Court in the Courthouse, in the town of Farwell, with the following members present,

To-wit:

Isabel Izzy Carrasco	Judge
Kirk Frye	Commissioner Pct. #1
Charles Wilkins	Commissioner Pct. #2
Kenny White	Commissioner Pct. #3
Casey Russell	Commissioner Pct. #4
Sharon May	County Treasurer
Susie Spring	County Clerk

Also Present:

Casey Conrad, Cargill Manager
James Griswold, Engineer, Cargill
Awyna Sanchez, Tax Assessor-Collector
Eric Geske, Sheriff
Amy Dudley

When the following was had and done, To-wit:

Call to Order

1. Prayer

Commissioner White led the Court in prayer to begin the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag

The Court pledged their allegiance to the flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

3. Open Forum for Public Comments

There were no comments from members of the public.

4. Consider and Discuss CR15/Cargill Entrance

Cargill presented their plans for the temporary closure of CR15 for the period of construction of the overpass for the Cargill plant. Cargill will be doing all the construction on the road from County Road M going north to the construction area at their expense. They will be raising the

elevation paying particular attention to drainage. This portion of the project is scheduled for re-opening on April 1, 2026.

Upon a motion by Judge Carrasco to approve this temporary closure and road work, seconded by Commissioner Frye, the motion passed on a majority vote. See attached.

5. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Upon a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on November 12, 2024, by Commissioner Frye, seconded by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed by a majority vote.

Upon a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on November 18, 2024 by Commissioner Russell seconded by Commissioner Frye, the motion passed by a majority vote.

6. Consider Approval and Payment of Accounts Payable-Sharon May

Sharon May reported the Accounts Payable List for and November 15th and 25th 2024. Motion by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Frye to approve Payment of the Accounts Payable as presented. Motion carried by majority vote. See attached.

7. Consider Treasurer's Payroll Report-Sharon May

Commissioner Russell made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Payroll Report for November 15, 2024, Commissioner Wilkins seconded and the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

8. Consider and Discuss Federal Surplus Application

It was recently discovered that the County's application for purchase of surplus equipment from the Federal Government expired in 2014. The Sheriff does have an existing application to purchase equipment.

Commissioner White made a motion for the County to re-apply to be granted the right to purchase surplus equipment. Commissioner Russell seconded the motion and the motion passed by majority vote.

9. Consider and Discuss Resolution of Support for County Motor Fuel Tax Exemption

Judge Carasco explained that the Texas Legislature must approve this exemption. Texas Association of Counties is asking the counties to show support by passing this resolution in favor of the bill for exemption.

Commissioner Frye made a motion to approve the resolution.
Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed with a majority vote. See attached.

10. Consider and Discuss County Assistant Program through TXDOT

This program is considered each year. This enables the County to receive state surplus materials to help maintain County Roads. Upon motion by Commissioner Wilkins to approve the County Assistant Program for 2025, seconded by Commissioner Russell, the motion passed by majority vote. See attached.

11. Consider and Discuss Purchase of Lawnmower for the Courthouse

Judge Carrasco presented two lawn mowers for consideration from a local vendor, Lone Star Ag. They are identical except for the following: one is fuel injection and one is not. The fuel injection mower also has no flat tire capacity. The fuel injection mower is \$12,498.91. The other mower is \$10,063.23. Commissioner White made a motion to buy the fuel injected mower considering it would require less maintenance. Commissioner Wilkins seconded the motion and the motion passed with majority vote.

12. Consider Any and All Matters Concerning the Parmer County Law Enforcement Center Including but not Limited to:

- A. Consider and Discuss Purchasing Kubota UTV
- B. Consider and Discuss MOU with the City of Farwell
- C. Discuss Options for Upgrading Security at JP #2 Office
- D. Consider and Discuss Applying for 2025 SB22 Grant

The Sheriff reported 19 inmates housed in the Parmer County Jail. Seven of the inmates are from Lamb County.

Sheriff Geske presented two bid options for the Kubota UTV from Lone Star Ag, a vendor in Parmer County. One is diesel and one is gasoline powered. The diesel engine has 2 bench seats for 4 people and the gas engine accommodates 2 people.

The gas engine UTV is \$18,584.02. The diesel engine UTV is \$25,496.86. Judge Carrasco informed the Court that the Lazbuddie Wind Farm has offered to donate \$10,000.00 to the purchase of the UTV for the Sheriff's Department. The remaining funds would be taken out of the ARPA funds still remaining.

After discussion, Commissioner Frye mad a motion to purchase the gas engine UTV for \$18,584.02. Judge Carrasco seconded the motion and the motion passed with a majority vote.

Sheriff Geske reported that the City of Farwell is seeking an MOU similar to the one the County had with the City of Friona when they were short staffed with Deputies.

The discussion is for \$55.00/hour when coverage from the Sheriff's Department and coverage every other weekend. The MOU is still under negotiations.

On a motion to table this issue by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Commissioner White, the motion passed with a majority vote.

The Sheriff discussed the security at JP#2's office. He said there is no protection for the JP if she is there alone. No camera, no alert button, no automatic door locking mechanism to protect the JP.

Commissioner Wilkins brought up the issue that there is also nothing in JP#1 office to deter anyone trying to do harm. The Sheriff stated that he will continue searching for ways to protect both offices but, had no answers for the Court at this time.

The Judge and Sheriff discussed with the Court that it is time to consider applying for the 2025 SB22 grant. Although it is a 2 year program, you must apply yearly. After discussion, Judge Carrasco made a motion to apply for the 2025 SB22 grant. Commissioner White seconded and the motion passed on a 3 to 1 majority vote.

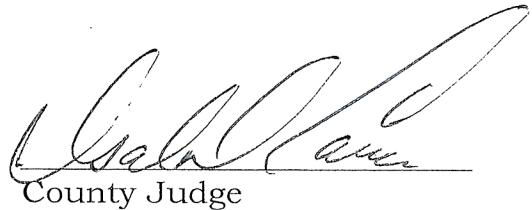
At 11:20 AM the Commissioner's Court adjourned to a closed session.

At 12:34 PM the Judge reconvened in Regular Session.

With no further business to come before the Court, Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Russell seconded and adjournment was called at 12:40 o'clock PM.


County Clerk




County Judge